

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance 1849 C Street, NW - MS 2342 - MIB Washington, D.C. 20240



9043.1 PEP/NRM

ELECTRONIC MAIL MEMORANDUM

August 21, 2006

To: Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs*

Director, National Park Service (Lead)

Director, Fish and Wildlife Service

Director, Geological Survey

Director, Bureau of Land Management Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation

From: Team Leader, Natural Resources Management

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

Subject: Review of Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation for the Dakota, Minnesota and

Eastern Railroad Application for Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Relating to the Powder River Basin Project (ER 06/822)

Agency Due Date: October 10, 2006

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has requested the Department to review the above referenced project. You may retrieve it from the Internet at: http://www.fra.dot.gov, under "Current Events." Then click "Current Environmental Reviews." Click "DM&E Powder River Basin Expansion Project." Scroll down to "The Documents."

Also, the FRA has adopted and is recirculating the Surface Transportation Board's (STB) Final Environmental Impact Statement documentation. This documentation is online at the STB website: http://www.stb.dot.gov, under "Environmental Matters."

Would you please have your appropriate field-level office review the document from its particular jurisdiction or special expertise and provide its comments to the Midwest Regional Office, National Park Service, Omaha, NE, by **September 22, 2006.**

This project involves numerous historic structures in the area of potential effect. Related reviews are: ER 00/758 (STB/DES), and ER 05/348 (STB/DES).

The MWRO, NPS, will prepare the Department's comments and forward them through channels by **September 29, 2006,** so that a reply may arrive in this Office by **October 6, 2006.**

THE NPS IS REQUESTED TO SUPPLY ALL SIGNED, PAPER COMMENTS AND COMMENTS ON DISK OR BY ELECTRONIC MAIL TO THIS OFFICE.

/S/ Vijai N. Rai

cc: Assistant Secretaries

Regional Environmental Officers, DEN and PHI

OEPC Staff Contact: Ethel Smith - 202/208-4169 {E-MAIL: ethel_smith@ios.doi.gov}

*Hard copy distributed by regular mail